Unemployment Problem in the Country

375. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken recently effective steps to tackle unemployment problem in the country particularly in the state of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Central allocation for the same during the Eight Five Year Plan, state-wise in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan emphasises the need for a high rate of economic growth combined with faster growth of sectors, subsectors and areas having relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Within this overall strategy, each State adopts a strategy that is appropriate to its requirements. Besides the employment to be generated in the normal growth process, there are the ongoing special employment generation schemes such as the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and also the Employment assurance Scheme (EAS) launched recently. The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) launched recently aims at enabling educated unemployed youth to set up enterprises in manufacturing, service and business ventures. State-wise allocation of Central funds for these programmes are made only in the Annual plans.

Educated Manpower in the Labour Force

376. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of educated manpower of the total labour force in our country;

(b) whether Government have formulated any plan of Action in regard to tackle this major problem;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The educated (matriculates and above; constitute around 16 per cent of the total labour force.

(b) to (d) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. Of the new employment opportunities being created, around 45 per cent are estimated to be going to the educated. A self employment scheme, called the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), launched in October, 1993 aims at providing employment specifically to educated unemployed youth by enabling them to set up enterprises in manufacturing, service and business ventures.

Introduction of Indicative Planning in the Country

377. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move on the part of the Planning Commission to introduce "indicative planning".

(b) whether it is a fact that liberalised economics in the developed world adopt "indicative planning"; and

(c) what would be the role of the Planning Commission in the present circumstances where market forces are guiding the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The Eighth Five Year Plan stipulates a re-examination and reorientation of the role